



Equity Advisory Group – Equity Lens Session

Meeting Date:	02/23/2024
Time:	7:30 am – 9:00 am
Location:	Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

<i>Facilitator</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>EAG Member</i>	<i>Member Organizations</i>
<i>Amber Lenhart</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clyde Abrahamson	Spokane Indian Housing Authority
<i>Avista Team Member</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Margee Chambers	Spokane Clean Air
<i>Kelly Dengel</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Connie Kliewer	NEWESD101
<i>Annette Brandon</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clair Trapp	Rural Resources
<i>Dan Blazquez</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David Tietz	Salem Arms Community Housing
<i>Amanda Ghering</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	KJ January	Spectrum
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	William von Bracht	Othello, school English as 2nd language
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michele Bennington	Community member at large
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brook Beeler	Department of Ecology Eastern Region
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jupiter McGee	Sunrise Spokane Affiliation (youth led) (Facebook)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vanessa Strong	Spokane Public Library
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tami Dillion	Providence
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alexsander Swenson	Youth - Girl Scout
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cindy Kimmet	Takesa Village
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carmen Groom	SNAP
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rowena Pineda	Reimagine Spokane & Asian Pacific Islander Coalition
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jean Kindem	Aging & Long-Term Care of Eastern Washington
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Karen Boone	Red Cross
		Guests	
		<i>Joshua Dennis</i>	<i>WUTC</i>

Agenda

- I. Welcome & Introductions.....2
 - Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent2
- II. Partner Share.....2
- III. Agenda Item 1 – Root Cause Discussions2
- IV. Your Support Team and Next Meeting3
- V. Additional Resources3

EAG Equity Lens Session Meeting Notes

I. Welcome & Introductions

Overview of Meeting: Rules and Intent

II. Partner Share

- **Member:** Aging and Long-Term Care looking for people who want to join their board. Contact Jean for board application.
- **Member:** Hiring event occurring at Providence.

III. Agenda Item 1 – Root Cause Discussions

Brief Refresher – Annette

- Annette shared the benefits to the energy system with the physical delivery of power including Energy, Social, Economic, Environmental, and some potential burdens with Affordability and Access.

Introduction to root cause activity - Amber

- Amber spoke about the barriers to equity including social, economic, environmental, and political factors. She also spoke about the difference between Equality, Equity and Justice (to address the cause of inequity).

Video – Jason’s Story

- Understanding the ‘why’ and what is each person’s part in solving the issue.

Root cause discussion activity – Amber

- **Member:** Language, people from other countries may not understand the written English language. A lot of indigenous people who do not have a written language or the dialect is so rare there is no one to translate etc.,
- **Member:** Elderly, technology barriers, they may not know how to use the computer or are ashamed to ask someone for help. Hard to navigate the automated phone systems. No smart phone, no internet access.
- **Member:** Complicated processes, solutions are not sustainable.
- **Member:** People in high stress situations, medical problems.
- **Member:** People with disabilities and other vulnerable populations don't know where to begin or are not aware that there are options for them to get help.
- **Member:** Digital divide, rural places with less access.
- **Member:** Challenging application processes.
- **Member:** No bandwidth, no mental capacity to try to access.
- **Member:** People in poverty, racial, disenfranchised politically, they do not know how to advocate for themselves.
- **Member:** NIMBY, not in my backyard, move the pole out of my backyard etc.,
- **Member:** Transportation, if you are not using the computer, a smart phone, you are doing everything face to face, not everyone has someone that can drive them places.
- **Member:** social security for isolation (social not monetary). Getting out into the community to get to know your community members so you have people around for social/emotional support. A sense of belonging.

- **Facilitator:** Why are people disenfranchised?
- **Member:** people not wanting to get involved in the community
- **Member:** you need the capacity, hard to do when you work multiple jobs or you have a medical issue you are dealing with.
- **Member:** Not listened to in the same way, their social power is not as high.
- **Facilitator:** Reviewed comments from Wednesday session.

IV. Your Support Team and Next Meeting

- Tamara shared Avista’s Power Outage and Medical Needs flier – Jean said Spanish isn’t enough for the translation.
- Kelly shared the in-person meeting idea for April/May with a promise of a follow up email from Dan or Tamara.

V. Additional Resources

<i>Resource Link</i>	<i>Description</i>
Washington’s Clean Energy Future	Avista page for CETA related activities
Clean Energy Transformation Act	Clean Energy Transformation Act - Washington State Department of Commerce
Chapter 19.405 RCW	Laws and Regulations: Revised Code of Washington Investor-owned utilities
Chapter 480-100 WAC	Laws and Regulations: Washington Administrative Code Investor-owned utilities
WA Energy Strategy	Washington State Energy Strategy
CETA Overview	CETA overview and interim assessment